Grant Services for Illinois Heartland Library System

FY23 REPORT

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Grant Readiness

**Master plan to get IHLS grant ready: finding good-fit funders, compiling important documents, creating power prospectus, etc.**

**ELIGIBILITY**
- ISL grants
- Federal grants

**Fiscal Sponsorship**
- IHLS is ineligible for 501(c)3 status as a quasi-goverment organization

**Possible Sponsors**
- ILA Fund for Illinois Libraries
  - only if grant funds are distributed as a donation

**Private Funders**
- Foundations that want to support libraries
- Foundations serving as the charity arm of larger corporations

**VISION**
IHLS programs/ideas that will entice grant makers to provide funding

**Programming**
- Public Outreach – working with members and patrons
- Partnerships – what organs naturally fit with IHLS program ideas

**Access**
- Unserved patrons – Library Link

**Innovation**
- Technology
- Equipment
Grant Seeking

Priorities for FY23: Mobile Memory Lab, Library Link, Schools in SHARE
Other project ideas: Library of Things, AMH, Discovery Layer or Electronic databases for SHARE

4 funding requests submitted

IL HUMANITIES
Mobile Memory Lab
CMC

Good Fit Funders
- Ameren Cares
- Walmart Foundation

Worth a Try
- Carroll J. Haas Foundtion
- Max & Victoria Dreyfus Foundation

1 grant awarded

$4,000

Mobile Memory Lab
One year pilot project working with three member libraries to hold Digitization Day events

Benefits
- New partner - increases I HLS visibility
- More competitive - positions I HLS to apply for larger federal grants to expand project
Member Benefits

Finding 'good fit' funders focused on libraries, education, technology, etc.

**RESEARCH**
Finding opportunities for IHLS and members

**Subscription Databases**
- Grant Station
- Grant Gopher

**Free Resources**
- Philanthropy News Digest – RFPs
- Demco – Grants for Libraries
- Grants.gov
- ALA Grant Announcements

**Looking Local**
- Illinois State Library – LSTA grants
- Community Foundations

**75+**
Grant opportunities found and provided for members

**Highlights**
- Mary Heath Foundation
- We Need Diverse Books
- IL Humanities – Activate History Micro Grants
- T-Mobile Hometown Grants

**Year 2**
- Provide quick grant tips to be used in IHLS newsletter or on social media
- Continue to find opportunities with simple application requirements
How can IHLS be more successful grant-seekers in FY2024?
Can we double the number of funding requests submitted?

**PARTNERS**
Who can IHLS partner with to increase grant revenue?

**Member Library Friends Groups**
- region – specific
- member focused

**Historical Societies**
- CMC projects

**Out of the Box Ideas**
- Soliciting donations from the public/crowdfunding?
- IHLS Foundation or Friends group to benefit member libraries?

**Prepare for Federal Applications**

**NHPRC**
- Public Engagement with Historical Records
- Should be announced in June
- between $50,000 – $100,000

**NEH**
- Humanities Collections & Reference Resources – in 2024 (and keeping an eye out for other opportunities)

**IMLS**